



Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook January 18 - 24, 2018

Temperatures:

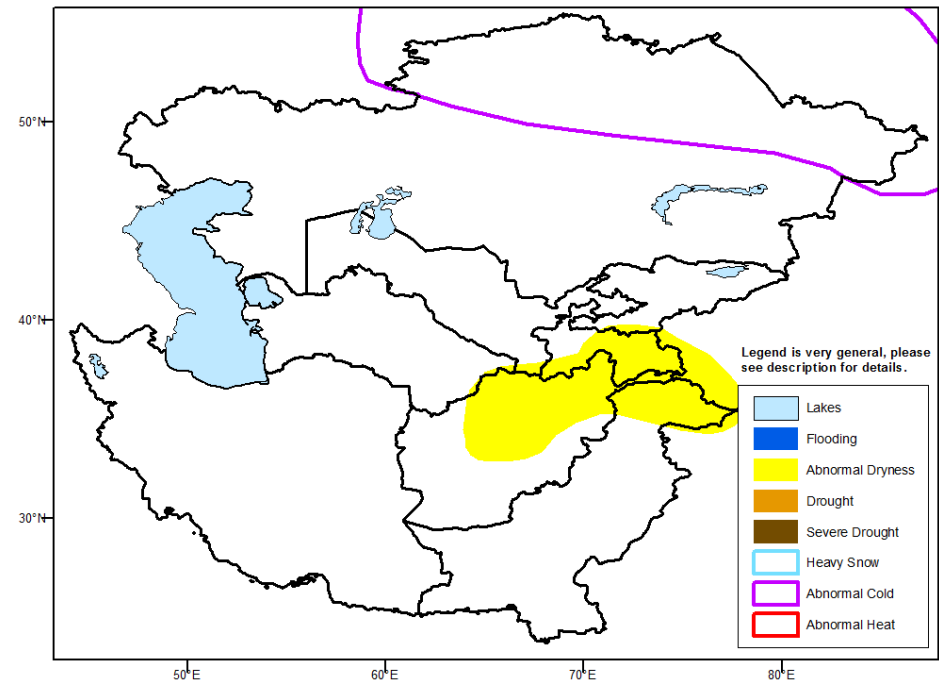
Near to above-normal temperatures (1 to 5 degrees C) were observed across much of the region from January 7 to 13, excluding northern Kazakhstan where temperatures averaged slightly below-normal. Minimum temperatures fell below -30 degrees C across northern Kazakhstan during the past week, while maximum temperatures warmed to near 20 degrees in southern Turkmenistan and adjacent areas of western Afghanistan.

The ECMWF model indicates a strong surface high (1064-hpa) shifting south from Siberia during the next week. Although the GFS model is slightly weaker with this surface high, it indicates minimum temperatures averaging more than 15 degrees C below normal across northeast Kazakhstan where minimum temperatures are likely to fall below -35 degrees C.

Precipitation

Widespread precipitation (2 to 30 mm, liquid equivalent) fell across Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan from January 7 to 13, while mostly dry weather persisted across Afghanistan and Tajikistan. Based on below average snow water equivalent values, an abnormal dryness hazard is posted for parts of northeast Afghanistan, the central highlands of Afghanistan, and Tajikistan.

According to the GFS model, light to moderate snow (locally more than 10 mm, liquid equivalent) is expected across northeast Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan during the next week. The heaviest snowfall is expected to occur across Tajikistan.



Note: The Hazards outlook map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), and assesses their potential impact on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at this continental scale. This product does not reflect long range seasonal climate forecasts or indicate current or projected food security conditions.